**Gypsy Roma and Travellers in Northumberland**

**People**

Nationally, it is estimated that there are between 200,000 and 300,000[[1]](#footnote-1) Gypsies and Travellers in the UK, two-thirds of which are settled in brick and mortar, and around 90,000 living a semi-nomadic life but these figures are far higher than those shown on the 2011 Census (57,680 individuals self-identifying as ‘Gypsy or Irish Traveller’ in England and Wales). In Northumberland, there are 156 Gypsies and Irish Travellers residing in the county as identified in the 2011 census.

According to the Department of Education annual school census, there were 53 children of Traveller or Gypsy/Roma backgrounds in 2016, an increase of 1 from the previous year. In Northumberland, 0.1% of its school children are Gypsy Roma/Travellers, lower than both the North East and England at 0.4% (2015/16 data).

**Gypsy and Traveller Caravans**

A biannual Count of Gypsy and Traveller Caravans is carried out by local authorities on behalf of central government each year and gives a snapshot of the numbers of caravans, not number of residents, in each area . The counts have shown an increase in the number of caravans of around 400 in the period since July 2010. 78% of those recorded were on authorised land and 22% on unauthorised land.

In 2016, there are two caravan sites provided by Northumberland provided by the local authority and registered provider, with a total of 38 pitches.

The number of travelling showpeople caravans has stayed constant at 22, over the last 3 years and all of these have used authorised sites.

Strategy for gypsy and travellers in Northumberland

<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Housing/Travellers.aspx?nccredirect=1>

Traveller education

<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Children/Needs/Traveller.aspx>

1. Equality and Human Rights Commission [↑](#footnote-ref-1)